INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

No. 1791 — Washington, D. C. — August 13, 1960

Canners Complete Donations To Provision Project HOPE

Canned foods to provision the mercy ship HOPE have been donated by canners. Sufficient volume and variety of canned foods have been pledged, and enough has been shipped to its destination, to say that the canning industry's contribution is virtually complete.

Project HOPE is a privately-sponsored undertaking, implementing the President's suggestion for a people-to-people program. HOPE is a hospital ship which will serve as a training and treatment clinic, a medical school, a base for medical, nursing, and sanitation teams, and the logistic center for medical aid and health exchange programs. Through N.C.A., canners were asked to furnish the canned foods needed for a one-year voyage.

HOPE is scheduled to sail from San Francisco September 23. The lead time required for provisioning the ship requires that all donations be pledged by August 15 and all food be delivered by September 11.

Because of this brief lead time, deliveries could not be assured if shipments were made from the East Coast and only in rare instances if made from the Midwest. Because of the time element, many canners who wanted to donate were denied that privilege. It is understood, however, that another voyage will be made next year and that more time will be allowed in which to provision the ship.

The limited time threw a heavier burden on West Coast canners, who have responded liberally. Not all donations have been received, but enough have come in to indicate that quotas will be met without difficulty.

Canned foods donated through N.C.A. to Project HOPE are applesauce, apricots, peaches, pears, pineapple, pineapple juice, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, berries, cherries, and nectars; asparagus, corn, peas, green beans, tomatoes, tomato juice, catsup, and chili sauce; baby foods and soups; and tuna and sardines.

Canned Foods for School Lunch

Canned Peaches

USDA announced August 8 offers to buy canned freestone and canned clingstone peaches, packed during 1960, with funds appropriated under the National School Lunch Act.

Details and specifications of the offers to purchase have been mailed by USDA to peach canners. Offers will be considered only on No. 10 cans.

Separate offers to sell canned freestone (exclusive of Lovells and Kim Elbertas) or canned clingstone peaches, slices or halves, must be received by the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Washington 25, D. C., by 9 a.m. EDT August 16 for acceptance by August 19.

Delivery will be required during the period September 12 through October 15.

Canned Tomatoes

USDA announced August 10 an offer to buy canned tomatoes packed during 1960, using funds appropriated under the National School Lunch Act.

Offers will be considered only on canned tomatoes meeting the requirements of U. S. Grade B or better, except as to color, packed in No. 10 cans.

Offers must be received by the Fruit and Vegetable Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Washington 25, D. C., by 4 p.m. EDT September 9 for acceptance by September 16. Delivery will be required during the period October 3 through November 7.

Further details may be obtained from Claude S. Morris of the AMS (telephone 202 DUdley 8-2781).

Canned Green Beans

USDA announced August 11 the purchase of 300,000 cases of canned green beans in No. 10 cans for the National School Lunch Program. Following is a summary of the quantities and prices in each state:

Arkansas 4,350 cases at $3.88; Delaware 10,400 cases, $3.65-$3.79; Georgia 21,500 cases, $3.79-$3.89; Maryland 27,350 cases, $3.64-$3.74; Michigan 52,060 cases, $3.65-$3.80; New York 19,440 cases, $3.61-$3.81; Oregon 28,760 cases, $3.625-$3.81; Pennsylvania 24,000 cases, $3.60-$3.75; Tennessee 64,800 cases, $3.80-$3.85; Washington 5,000 cases, $3.76; and Wisconsin 42,340 cases, $3.50-$3.75.

Estimated transportation costs and discounts for prompt payment were taken into consideration in making the awards, USDA said.

Delivery will be required during the period September 6 through October 17.

Senate Begins Consideration of Wage-Hour Legislation

Two days after it convened on August 8, the Senate began consideration of the wage-hour bill.

As amended and reported by the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, the Kennedy bill, S. 3758, would reduce the overtime exemptions available to fruit and vegetable canners from 28 weeks to 20 weeks, of which 10 weeks would be unlimited. The remaining 10 weeks would be limited to 12 hours per day or 56 hours per week. Fish canners' present year-round exemption from overtime would be retained.

The pending Senate bill would increase the minimum hourly wage for presently-covered employees in three stages: to $1.15 per hour, effective January 1, 1961; to $1.20 per hour, effective January 1, 1962; and to $1.25 per hour, effective January 1, 1963.

The House, which will convene on August 15, passed an amended version of H. R. 12677 on June 30 (see INFORMATION LETTER of July 2, page 205).

N.C.A. Staff Changes Are Announced

Robert B. Heiney has been named Assistant Secretary of the N.C.A., George E. Steele, Jr., Assistant to the Secretary, and Leonard K. Lobred, Assistant Director of the Information Division.

For the most part, these titles are in recognition of work being performed by these staff members. New assign-

ments, however, are the membership campaign to Mr. Heiney and the Labeling Program to Mr. Steele, and relatively new is the publication of the *Canners Directory* to Mr. Lobred.

Secretary Carlos Campbell, in notifying the staff of these changes, said:

"The practice of delegating as much as possible to individuals on the staff and to hold such persons responsible for the handling of their jobs is a well established policy. As a result of this policy individuals on the staff have become identified with certain jobs and services. This tends to facilitate member-staff contacts and speed up service to the membership.

"It is essential that each member of the staff understand, in addition to the specifications of his own job, the nature of jobs assigned to other members. In the case of Directors of Divisions and the employees within the Divisions, their job responsibilities are understood by the entire staff. Jobs not identified with any particular Division require some description. The job specification in such cases describes the general area of operation, but does not necessarily spell out all of the details within that area.

"Robert Heiney has been appointed Assistant Secretary. In addition to his general responsibilities as Assistant Secretary he will be in charge of certain programs in the general field of industry-government relations. He will have responsibility for directing the staff activities in the programs listed, and will report on these activities directly to the Executive Secretary:

"Legislation, federal and state; communication with the federal departments and agencies; cooperation with the state and regional canners associations; and canner-broker-distributor relations.

"George Steele has been appointed Assistant to the Secretary to handle the labeling job in addition to his assignments in the Fishery Products Division. The execution of the N.C.A. Labeling Program requires the services of various staff members, each contributing to the Program in his own professional field. This work can best be coordinated through the Secretary's office. George Steele's responsibility with respect to the labeling work will include:

"1. Serve as secretary to the N.C.A. Labeling Committee, and aid in the development and execution of the Program enunciated by this Committee, including the staff responsibility for the budget of the Labeling Program.

"2. Coordinate all labeling functions performed by the other Divisions of the N.C.A., including the technical labeling work of the Research Laboratories; educational activities having to do with labeling within the Consumer Service Division program, and labeling publicity in the C.&T.R. Program, or as it may be undertaken under other programs.

"3. Represent the Secretary in working with N.C.A. Counsel on labeling problems.

"4. Answer all correspondence and inquiries regarding the N.C.A. Labeling Program and handle with the appropriate assistance from other staff members and Counsel all labeling service requested by members.

"Leonard Lobred has been appointed Assistant Director of the Information Division, in recognition of responsibilities already assumed, which may be described briefly as follows: Editor of the INFORMATION LETTER and the *Fishery Information Bulletin* (the latter involves some new responsibilities) and consultant on other Association publications. All of these responsibilities are under the immediate supervision of the Division's Director. Additional responsibilities that have been delegated to Mr. Lobred are the biennial publication of the *Canners Directory*."

Raw Products Research

FRUIT PROJECTS STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE RAW PRODUCTS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

This committee had its beginning in April, 1954, when it was appointed to further research on fruit problems of national or regional interest to the canning industry. Present members of this committee are Ray Floate, Michigan Fruit Canners, Inc., Chairman; A. F. Gilcrest, Gerber Products Company; W. W. Hunt, National Fruit Product Company; L. D. MacKellar, California Packing Corporation; Willis C. Moore, H. J. Heinz Company; and Carl G. Smith, Gerber Products Company.

Illustrative of the early activities of this committee is the special conference of experiment station, USDA and industry representatives held in November, 1956, to call attention to and encourage research on the bitter pit problem in apples. Committee members have followed closely the work on bitter pit which was stimulated as the result of this N.C.A.-sponsored conference.

In 1958 the committee sponsored a meeting to evaluate and promote research on improved methods of sour cherry harvesting and handling and on raw product quality evaluation. An outgrowth of the meeting was the formation last year of a joint canner-grower committee specifically to further research on sour cherry problems. A conference to discuss progress in research on this crop was sponsored by this group at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, in February of this year.

Progress in the mechanization and harvesting and handling of this crop will be followed closely this year as well as research relating to fruit quality evaluation.

The committee has been particularly active in maintaining contacts with fruit breeders in experiment stations and the USDA to encourage the breeding of new fruit varieties better adapted to canning use. The committee has been particularly interested in fostering the development of new disease-resistant fruit varieties, particularly pears, apples, and peaches.

The research program on the pear decline problem in the West has received and will continue to receive guidance and encouragement from committee members.

The committee has encouraged research on improved methods of evaluating raw apple quality for canning and will be following work under way by experiment station workers and the USDA in this field this season. The committee will continue to be alert to regional and national problems confronting the fruit canning industry.

When contacts are made by committee members with research workers in pomology throughout the country, workers are encouraged to bear in mind the use of fruit for canning in considering the objectives of their research programs.

John R. Hinton

John R. Hinton, 72, former president of Blundon & Hinton, Inc., Reedville, Va., died July 31 after a long illness.

Blundon & Hinton at one time operated a tomato cannery, a fish cannery, a mercantile business, and the Reedville water system. Mr. Hinton also operated a number of farms and was president of the Reedville bank.

He served two terms on the N.C.A. Board of Directors, 1933-35 and 1944-47, and was a member of the Resolutions Committee in 1950. He also was a president of the Tidewater Canners Association.

U. S. Hears Industry Views on Promoting Food Exports

Foreign governmental import restrictions which impede U. S. exports of food products were described to U. S. Department of Commerce officials August 9 at an export promotion meeting arranged by that Department.

The meeting was one in a weekly series held by the Commerce Department on measures to aid in expansion of U. S. exports. At this meeting there were 20 industry men representing food processing, distilled spirits, malt beverages, and tobacco industries.

Import restrictions imposed by foreign governments are widespread and are seriously handicapping export trade in these products, the industry representatives said. Among the governmental barriers to trade listed by the industry men were high tariffs, quota restrictions, excessive excise taxes, and outright embargoes.

It was pointed out that two European countries have barred imports of deciduous fruits from the United States and that two others have established quotas although they enjoy unrestricted markets in this country.

Also, opinion was expressed that the European Common Market is a growing threat to U. S. exports.

The Secretary of Commerce, Frederick H. Mueller, said that only a fraction of U. S. manufacturers engage in export operations, but that this trade area is broad. He said that it would be desirable for small and middle-sized firms that have not heretofore done any export business to get into this field.

The Secretary also emphasized the importance of the export promotion program which the U. S. Government is now conducting. One purpose of the meeting, it was explained, was to obtain industry views on opportunities for exports and the trade restrictions which they encounter in other countries.

The United States will participate in major tariff and trade negotiations this fall and winter with 27 other countries, and the Government wishes to have industry pinpoint the problems in individual countries that would be particularly helpful to U. S. negotiators in directing their efforts along the most productive lines.

Food industry representatives at the meeting, at the invitation of the Commerce Department, included Frank C. Elliott, Canners League of California; Harry D. Riddling, Snively Groves, Inc.; E. L. Morris, California Fish Canners Association; George D. Bryson, General Foods Corp.; and Dewey A. Bond, American Meat Institute.

The meeting was arranged by the Food Industries Division of the BDSA, headed by Jacob M. Schaffer.

Deciduous Fruit Production

Total production of deciduous fruit is expected to be 7 percent smaller than in 1959 but 3 percent above average, on the basis of August 1 conditions, according to the Crop Reporting Board of USDA. Only the sweet cherry and apricots are expected to be larger than last year's.

	1959	1960 Indicated	Percent change from 1959
	(*thous. of bushels*)		
Apples, all	121,787	109,400	−10
East	58,890	50,020	−15
Central	23,112	21,825	−6
West	39,785	37,555	−6
Peaches, all	74,339	73,614	−1
Calif. cling	25,377	25,377	....
Calif. freestone	13,501	13,543	....
Pears, all	30,191	27,181	−10
	(*tons*)	(*tons*)	
Bartlett pears, 3 Pacific Coast States	490,500	436,500	−11
Sweet cherries, all	78,220	80,150	+2
Great Lakes states	21,420	19,630	−8
Western states	56,800	60,520	+7
Sour cherries, all	137,030	116,020	−15
Great Lakes states	128,750	108,700	−16
Western states	8,280	7,320	−12
Apricots, all	229,800	237,600	+3
Calif.	210,000	225,000	+7
Plums, all	99,700	94,500	−5
Calif.	93,000	88,000	−5

MSSA Requirements for Canned Tomatoes

Tentative requirements for canned tomatoes from the 1960 crop to meet the needs of the armed services were announced August 5 by the Military Subsistence Supply Agency. Procurement will be made by the Oakland region, MSSA, 2155 Webster St., Alameda, Calif., and by the Richmond region, MSSA, 1722 Arlington Rd., Richmond, Va.

Tentative requirements are for 20,294,000 pounds of Grade A or Grade B, Type I, in No. 10 cans (530,562 cases 6/10) and for 9,853,000 pounds in No. 303 cans (410,542 cases 24/303).

Vegetables for Processing

The prospective tonnage of six important vegetables for commercial processing is 1 percent more than the 1959 production and 8 percent above average, on the basis of August 1 conditions, according to the Crop Reporting Board of USDA.

The total tonnage of the six crops for which forecasts of production have been made is 6.24 million tons, compared with 6.17 million tons last year and the 1949-58 average of 5.80 million tons.

Increases over last year's production are expected for snap beans, contract cabbage for kraut, and tomatoes. Reductions from last year are indicated for sweet corn, green peas, and spinach.

Tomatoes

The first forecast of tomatoes for processing points to a production of 3,650,800 tons, 4 percent above last year and 6 percent above average. As a whole, a good crop is in prospect.

The average yield in prospect is 13.0 tons per acre, 1.0 ton above last year and 2.8 tons above average. Most of the major producing states have yields near to or better than last year.

State	Production: 10-year ave. 1949–58	Production: 1959	Production: 1960 Indicated	Percent change from 1959
	(*tons*)	(*tons*)	(*tons*)	
N. Y.	147,800	110,100	78,300	−29
N. J.	225,900	176,400	220,000	+25
Pa.	173,000	131,300	152,400	+16
Ohio	190,300	296,600	270,000	−9
Ind.	268,800	266,200	230,300	−13
Ill.	104,400	114,700	113,100	−1
Mich.	65,100	82,500	97,500	+18
Wis.	8,500	6,300	4,300	−32
Iowa	10,700	23,000	24,300	+6
Mo.	6,900	5,000	1,500	−70
Del.	33,100	17,100	19,000	+11
Md.	122,800	70,000	83,700	+20
Va.	58,300	35,000	37,600	+7
S. C.	3,000	4,100	5,000	+22
Fla.[1]	36,200	33,850	39,500	+17
Ky.	5,000	2,500	2,700	+8
Ark.	10,000	5,200	6,000	+15
Texas	43,600	45,600	24,000	−47
Colo.	23,600	29,600	21,200	−28
Utah	69,900	33,100	44,200	+34
Calif.	1,815,600	1,997,400	2,160,000	+8
Other states[2]	16,200	22,700	16,200	−29
U.S. Total	3,438,800	3,508,250	3,650,800	+4

[1] Sum of estimates by seasonal groups.

[2] Ala., Ariz., Kans., La., Miss., Nebr., N. M., N. C., Okla., Ore., Tenn., Wash., and W. Va.

Sweet Corn

The first forecast of sweet corn for processing places production at 1,467,500 tons, 7 percent less than last year but 6 percent above the 1949-58 average. Most of the decline from last year is in the North Central states. An important factor is lower yields than last year's very high yields in Indiana and Wisconsin.

State	Production: 10-year ave. 1949–58 (tons)	Production: 1959 (tons)	1960 Indicated (tons)	Percent change from 1959
Maine	22,200	16,800	13,600	−19
N. Y.	68,400	63,500	68,000	+7
Pa.	28,800	22,600	25,500	+13
Ohio	26,700	19,500	15,400	−21
Ind.	47,700	48,000	37,500	−22
Ill.	201,200	210,200	217,600	+4
Wis.	294,400	401,200	313,100	−22
Minn.	294,500	332,400	311,500	−6
Iowa	63,200	34,000	19,100	−44
Del.	12,100	18,400	15,600	−15
Md.	75,200	93,200	86,800	−7
Idaho	47,000	73,400	72,000	−2
Wash.	67,500	81,000	98,800	+22
Ore.	65,400	93,600	109,600	+17
Other states [1]	68,200	74,400	63,400	−15
U. S. Total	1,383,200	1,582,200	1,467,500	−7

[1] Ark., Calif., Colo., La., Mich., Mont., Nebr., N. H., N. J., Okla., S. D., Tenn., Texas, Utah, Vt., Va., and Wyo.

Cabbage for Kraut

Contract production of cabbage for sauerkraut is forecast at 132,500 tons, 29 percent more than last year and 20 percent above average.

Last year kraut packers purchased 46,600 tons or 31 percent of their total supplies on the open market. The 10-year average for open market purchases amounts to 45 percent of the total quantity used for kraut.

	1959 Total [1] (tons)	1959 Contract [2] (tons)	1960 Preliminary Contract [2] (tons)
N. Y.	50,000	26,400	31,700
Ohio	10,600	10,600	21,100
Wis.	38,900	22,400	36,700
Other states [3]	50,200	43,700	43,000
U. S. Total	149,700	103,100	132,500

[1] Total acreage is the contract acreage (footnote 2) plus an equivalent acreage from which open market purchases were made.

[2] Contract acreage includes acreage grown by packers on own or leased land, acreage grown under contract with growers, and equivalent acreage on contracted acreage.

[3] Colo., Fla., Idaho, Ill., Ind., Iowa., Md., Mich., Minn., Mo., N. J., N. C., Ore., Pa., Tenn., Utah, Va., and Wash.

Snap Beans

Production of snap beans for processing is now forecast at 421,590 tons, 14 percent above the 1959 production and 37 percent above average. Such an output, if realized, would be a new record high.

The August 1 indicated yield of 2.3 tons per acre is 0.1 ton higher than last year's and equal to average. The production forecast for the nation is up slightly from a month ago.

State	Production: 10-year ave. 1949–58 (tons)	Production: 1959 (tons)	1960 Indicated (tons)	Percent change from 1959
Maine	5,500	3,600	4,200	+17
N. Y.	53,400	67,500	67,200	....
Pa.	10,200	9,600	16,000	+67
Mich.	10,800	13,300	12,400	−7
Wis.	23,800	37,000	37,600	+2
Del.	3,400	6,300	7,600	+21
Md.	17,100	12,700	16,300	+28
Va.	6,000	3,200	5,800	+81
N. C.	5,300	8,000	7,600	−5
S. C.	1,000	1,000	1,200	+20
Fla. [1]	18,100	12,650	21,100	+67
Tenn.	10,900	15,800	17,000	+8
Ark.	6,800	11,200	11,600	+4
La.	550	400	400	....
Okla.	3,900	10,500	10,000	−5
Texas	10,700	11,200	17,200	+54
Colo.	5,400	5,100	6,000	+18
Wash.	10,100	9,300	11,000	+18
Ore.	67,900	83,200	93,600	+13
Calif.	19,500	27,000	30,400	+13
Other states [2]	17,400	21,260	27,390	+29
U. S. Total	307,800	360,810	421,590	+14

[1] Sum of estimates by seasonal groups.

[2] Ala., Ga., Idaho, Ill., Ind., Iowa, Ky., Minn., Miss., Mo., Nebr., N. H., N. J., N. M., Ohio, Utah, Vt., and Wyo.

Production of Field Crops

Sweet Potatoes

The sweet potato crop is forecast at 14,297,000 hundredweight, 24 percent below the 1959 crop and 26 percent below the 1949-58 average. The production indicated on August 1 is 3 percent below the July 1 forecast.

State	Production: 10-year ave. 1949–58 (thousands of cwt.)	Production: 1959 (thousands of cwt.)	1960 Indicated (thousands of cwt.)	Percent change from 1959
N. J.	1,385	1,360	1,378	+1
Md.	524	504	520	+3
Va.	1,368	1,958	1,760	−10
N. C.	2,626	2,560	1,950	−24
Ala.	906	684	540	−21
Miss.	1,122	1,083	672	−38
La.	4,872	5,022	2,860	−43
Ark.	324	282	200	−29
Mo.	138	130	98	−25
Okla.	132	98	78	−20
Calif.	837	1,014	900	−11
Other states [1]	5,008	4,008	3,331	−17
U. S. Total	19,302	18,703	14,297	−24

[1] Fla., Ga., Kans., Ky., S. C., Tenn., and Texas.

Other Crops

	1959 (thousands of cwt.)	1960 Indicated (thousands of cwt.)	Percent change from 1959
Potatoes, all	243,281	256,266	+5
Late summer	33,519	31,794	−5
Fall	164,778	174,856	+6
	(thousands of bags)		
Dry beans	18,212	17,392	−5
Dry peas	4,375	2,752	−37
Rice	53,122	52,964	....

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